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Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Diego **Simancas** (Mexico)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered the item at its 5th and 12th meetings, on 12 and 30 October 2006. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/61/SR.5 and 12).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the performance of the budget of the United Nations Operation in Burundi for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 (A/60/612);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget for the United Nations Operation in Burundi for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007 (A/61/309);

(c) Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/61/485).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.5

4. At its 12th meeting, on 30 October, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi" (A/C.5/61/L.5), which was submitted by the Rapporteur of the Committee, the representative of Mexico, on the basis of informal consultations.

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5. At the same meeting, before consideration of the draft resolution, the Director of the Peacekeeping Financing Division made a statement.

6. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/61/L.5 without a vote (see para. 8).

7. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Nigeria (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the African Group) and South Africa.

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

8. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolution 1545 (2004) of 21 May 2004, by which the Council authorized, for an initial period of six months as from 1 June 2004, with the intention to renew it for further periods, the deployment of a peacekeeping operation called the United Nations Operation in Burundi, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Operation, the latest of which was resolution 1692 (2006) of 30 June 2006, by which the Council extended the mandate of the Operation until 31 December 2006,

Recalling also its resolution 58/312 of 18 June 2004 on the financing of the Operation and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 60/269 of 30 June 2006,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Operation with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Operation in Burundi as at 30 June 2006,[3] including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 31.1 million United States dollars, representing some 5 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only 49 Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Operation in full;

3. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

[1] A/60/612 and A/61/309.

[2] A/61/485.

[3] ST/ADM/SER.B/695, annex XXXIX.

4. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Operation;

8. *Welcomes* the use of the installation at Entebbe, Uganda, to enhance the efficiency and responsiveness of its logistical support operations for peacekeeping missions in the region;

9. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

10. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 21, 25 and 27 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

11. *Decides* to establish two National Officer posts for the Human Rights Office and one National Officer post for the Office of the Chief of Administrative Services through redeployment of posts;

12. *Also decides* to establish four general temporary assistance positions (one P-4, one P-2 and two national staff, including one National Officer) for the Conduct and Discipline Team;

13. *Re-emphasizes* the need to refine budgetary assumptions through closer scrutiny of expenditure patterns of the Operation;

14. *Reaffirms* its resolution 59/296 of 22 June 2005, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure the full implementation of its relevant provisions and the relevant provisions of its resolution 60/266 of 30 June 2006;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Operation is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Operation against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Operation;

17. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Operation and its personnel and looks forward to the successful completion of the mandate of the Operation;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure an orderly transition, including the transfer of assets, to the planned follow-on mission — the United Nations

Integrated Office in Burundi — and the efficient liquidation of the Operation's assets in accordance with the Operation's exit strategy and liquidation timetables;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to encourage strong coordination between the Operation, the planned follow-on mission and the United Nations country team with a view to ensuring a smooth transition to the planned follow-on mission and to reducing the potential duplication of activities among members of the United Nations country team;

20. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the lessons learned from other peacekeeping missions are applied during the Operation's drawdown, liquidation and transition to the planned follow-on mission;

21. *Notes* the additional information on projected expenditure for the Operation for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007, amounting to 128,536,700 dollars, provided by the Secretary-General;[4]

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005

22. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the Operation for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005;[5]

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007

23. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Operation in Burundi the amount of 128,536,700 dollars for the maintenance and administrative liquidation of the Operation for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007, inclusive of the amount of 78,959,200 dollars previously authorized by the General Assembly under the terms of its resolution 60/269 of 30 June 2006 for the maintenance of the Operation for the period from 1 July to 31 October 2006, and in addition to the amount of 3,426,800 dollars already appropriated under the terms of the same resolution for the support account for peacekeeping operations and the United Nations Logistics Base for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007;

Financing of the appropriation for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007

24. *Also decides*, taking into account the amount of 40 million dollars already apportioned under the terms of its resolution 60/269 for the maintenance of the Operation for the period from 1 July to 31 October 2006, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 88,536,700 dollars for the maintenance and administrative liquidation of the Operation for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution 58/256 of 23 December 2003, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2006, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B of 23 December 2003, and the scale of assessments for 2007;[6]

25. *Further decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 24 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the amount of 1,774,600 dollars, representing the

[4] See A/C.5/61/SR.

[5] A/60/612.

[6] To be adopted by the General Assembly.

estimated additional staff assessment income approved for the Operation for the period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007;

26. *Decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Operation, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 24 above, their respective share of the additional unencumbered balance in the amount of 115,500 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2004, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution 58/256, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2004, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B;

27. *Also decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Operation, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of the additional unencumbered balance in the amount of 115,500 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2004, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 26 above;

28. *Further decides* that, for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Operation, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 24 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 31,523,100 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2005, in accordance with the levels updated in its resolution 58/256, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2005, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B;

29. *Decides* that, for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Operation, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 31,523,100 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2005, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 28 above;

30. *Also decides* that the decrease in the estimated staff assessment income in the amount of 583,800 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2005 shall be set off against the credits from the amount of 31,523,100 dollars referred to in paragraphs 28 and 29 above;

31. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

32. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Operation, bearing in mind paragraphs 5 and 6 of Security Council resolution 1502 (2003) of 26 August 2003;

33. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Operation in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

34. *Decides* to keep under review during its sixty-first session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Operation in Burundi".